

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the abstract with the accompanying abstract:

A method monitors data resources of a data processing network on behalf of a new consumer. The method comprises determining monitoring requirements of the new consumer. The monitoring requirements include: a list of data resources monitored for the new consumer; metrics of the monitoring data for the new consumer; a data format for monitoring data provided to the new consumer; a time interval between periods of sending the monitoring data to the new consumer; and actions taken during failure of the data resource. The method also includes comparing the monitoring requirements of the new consumer with monitoring capabilities of a plurality of monitoring entities to identify at least one monitoring entity, including monitoring capabilities matching the monitoring requirements of the new consumer.

~~Methods, apparatus and computer programs are described for monitoring resources within a data processing network. Monitoring entities can be selected, and a set of active monitoring functions can be modified, based on the requirements of consumers of monitored data. A first method involves monitoring resources on behalf of consumer entities within the network. A description of the consumer entity's monitoring requirements are published by the consumer entity and stored in a repository. The monitoring requirements of the consumer entity are compared with the monitoring capabilities of a plurality of monitoring entities, to identify a monitoring entity capable of satisfying the monitoring requirements of the consumer entity. An identified monitoring entity is selected, and a connection is established between the selected monitoring entity and the consumer entity. A second method involves modifying an active set of monitoring functions in response to changes to monitoring requirements of a currently active set of consumer entities.~~